Edith Nourse Rogers

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
MASSACHUSETTS

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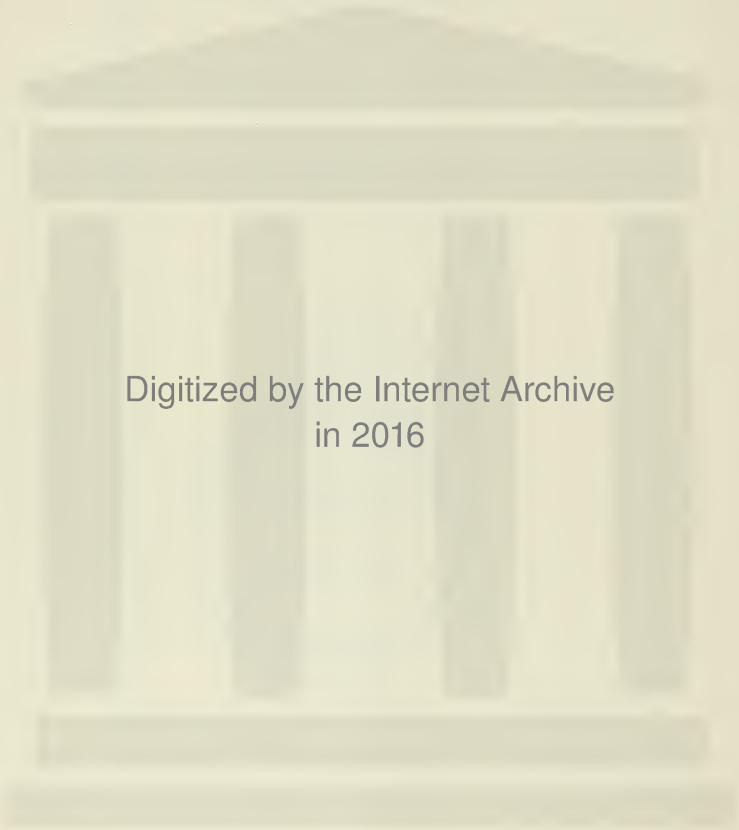
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER
WITH REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Edith Nourse Rogers

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
MASSACHUSETTS

Eighty-sixth Congress
Second Session

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1961

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

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Memorial Services
for
Edith Nourse Rogers

Biography

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS (wife of John Jacob Rogers), a Representative from Massachusetts; born in Saco, York County, Maine, in 1881; attended the common schools; was graduated from the Rogers Hall School, Lowell, Mass., and from Madame Julien's School, Paris, France; served with the American Red Cross in the care of disabled soldiers of the First World War 1917–1922; appointed a personal representative of President Harding in the care of disabled veterans in 1922, and was reappointed by President Coolidge in 1923; presidential elector on the Republican ticket of Coolidge and Dawes in 1924; president, board of trustees, Rogers Hall School, Lowell, Mass.; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-ninth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, John Jacob Rogers; reelected to the Seventieth and to the 16 succeeding Congresses and served from June 30, 1925, until her death in Boston, Mass., September 10, 1960; interment in Lowell Cemetery, Lowell, Mass.

Proceedings in the House

TUESDAY, *January 3, 1961.*

Mr. MARTIN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The clerk read the resolution (H. Res. 18), as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 4, 1961, at 12 o'clock noon.

MONDAY, *January 9, 1961.*

A message from the Senate by Mr. McGown, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a resolution as follows (S. Res. 23):

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the Senate do now adjourn.

Remarks by Representative Teague

Of Texas

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Speaker, as we start this 1st session of the 87th Congress, one of the most distinguished Members will be missing. I refer to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, who died just a few months ago after serving 35 years as a Member of the House. She succeeded her husband in this office, and between them they have represented this district for well over 40 years.

Mrs. ROGERS' interest in the welfare and well-being of veterans started with World War I. She served under three Presidents in a voluntary capacity before assuming her responsibility as a Member of Congress.

She relinquished her high-ranking position on the Foreign Affairs Committee in order to maintain her service on the Veterans' Affairs Committee when the Legislative Reorganization Act in 1947 reduced the number of committee assignments that a Member might have. She served with distinction as chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs in the 80th and 83d Congresses.

Mrs. ROGERS was the recipient of many awards from veterans' organizations in recognition of her service and of her compassion and understanding toward veterans of all our wars.

Following World War II, perhaps the one class of veterans who were closest to her heart were the paraplegics. She was greatly interested in and responsible for the automobiles for amputees program and also played an important role in the paraplegic housing grant legislation.

As anyone who knew her could testify, Mrs. ROGERS was possessed of a kind and outgoing disposition and her acts of consideration and generosity were legion.

All of those who served with her, as well as those whose lives were touched by her public service will greatly miss her in the days ahead, for she left a mark in the Halls of Congress which will not be easily forgotten.

Under unanimous consent I wish to insert at this point in the Record several recommendations which have been passed by veterans' groups concerning Mrs. ROGERS' service:

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, MIAMI BEACH, FLA., OCTOBER 17–20, 1960

Whereas Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was called to her eternal rest on September 10, 1960, after a lifetime of devoted and untiring effort on behalf of servicemen and veterans; and

Whereas the Nation's servicemen and veterans occupied a foremost place in her thoughts and actions, going back to the early days of World War I when she was one of the first American Red Cross trainees to go overseas, and in the postwar period when she earned the title of "Angel of Walter Reed Hospital," organized the first Gray Ladies Corps there, and served as personal representative for the care of disabled veterans to Presidents Harding and Coolidge; and

Whereas throughout her 35 years in Congress Mrs. ROGERS played a major part in the development and enactment of every important veterans law, and vigorously opposed and attacked every attempt to economize at the expense of disabled veterans and their dependent survivors; and

Whereas during these years as both member and chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, Mrs. ROGERS was the primary exponent and advocate of a public policy of liberal interpretation and administration of veterans' legislation; and

Whereas Congresswoman ROGERS constantly strove to advance the American Legion's legislative program for the rehabilitation and readjustment of war veterans, including the introduction of and forceful support of the GI bill of rights; and

Whereas we bow to the wisdom of the Almighty who has seen fit to take this great lady from our midst, but mourn her passing with the knowledge that the cause of war veterans has lost its greatest champion: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the 42d annual national convention of the American Legion assembled in Miami Beach, Fla., October 17–20, 1960, That the American Legion wishes to express its regret and profound sense of loss over the death of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, to record its great appreciation for her services, and to acknowledge

that she will occupy a high and enduring position in the hearts and memories of all veterans; and be it further

Resolved, That the American Legion sponsor and support legislation to have the Veterans' Administration hospital at Bedford, Mass., officially named the "EDITH NOURSE ROGERS Memorial Hospital."

RESOLUTION BY THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS OF MASSACHUSETTS

On October 8, the Department of Massachusetts, Disabled American Veterans, adopted a resolution urging that the Veterans' Administration hospital at Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass., be named the "Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital."

A similar resolution was presented to the National Convention of the Veterans of World War I of the U.S.A. by the Massachusetts World War I veterans last month and unanimously approved by the delegates.

The text of the DAV resolution follows:

"Whereas the life and acts of the late EDITH NOURSE ROGERS of the Fifth Congressional District of Massachusetts has been most outstanding in behalf of the veterans and disabled veterans of all conflicts with an armed enemy in which the United States of America has been engaged, as well as on behalf of the public and citizens not only of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, but also of the entire Nation; and

"Whereas it is deemed fitting and proper that her accomplishments and devotion in behalf of veterans and disabled veterans of the United States of America during her lifetime are worthy of appropriate public recognition, in order that the name of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS might be forever remembered by her fellow men: Therefore be it

"*Resolved,* That, in proper and suitable recognition of her services during 35 years in public office, the Department of Massachusetts, Disabled American Veterans, in session at the statehouse, Boston, Mass., on October 8, 1960, at its department executive meeting hereby adopts this resolution that the Veterans' Administration hospital located at 150 South Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass., be named "The Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital" of the U.S. Veterans' Administration; and be it further

"*Resolved,* That, the department adjutant and executive secretary be instructed to draft and present any necessary petitions to accomplish the purpose of this resolution, and that copies be sent to the Members of Congress and the two U.S. Senators from Massachusetts; and to the proper officials of the U.S. Veterans' Administration; and be it further

"*Resolved,* That, the department adjutant and executive secretary is hereby directed to contact the officials of the Veterans' Administration and make inquiries as to whether or not the Veterans' Administration can accomplish administratively, the naming of the Veterans' Administration hospital at South Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plain, the "Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital." If this cannot be accomplished administratively, he is hereby directed to have filed in the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, the following bill:

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, the Veterans' Administration facility located on South Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass., shall hereafter be known and designated as "The Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital of the U.S. Veterans' Administration.'

"GEORGE A. WELLS,
"*Department Commander.*

"Attest:

"JOSEPH R. HAROLD,
"*Department Adjutant and Executive Secretary.*"

RESOLUTION BY THE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR I OF MASSACHUSETTS

Whereas the life and many acts of the late EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, Congresswoman of the Fifth Congressional District of Massachusetts, has been most outstanding in behalf of the veterans of all conflicts with an armed enemy in which the United States of America has been engaged, as well as on behalf of the public and citizens not only of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, but also of the entire Nation; and

Whereas, it is deemed fitting and proper that her accomplishments, and devotion in behalf of veterans of the United States of America during her lifetime are worthy of appropriate public recognition, in order that the name of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS might be forever remembered by her fellow men: Therefore it is

Resolved, That in proper and suitable recognition of her service during 35 years in public office, the Department of Massachusetts Veterans of World War I, in session at the Aurora Hotel, Worcester, Mass., on September 11, 1960, at its administration board meeting, hereby adopt this resolution that the Veterans' Administration hospital located at Heath Street, Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass., be named "The Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital" of the U.S. Veterans' Administration; and be it further

Resolved, That the department legislative committee be instructed to draft and present any necessary petitions to accom-

plish the purpose of this resolution, and that copies be sent to the Members of Congress and the two U.S. Senators from Massachusetts and to the proper officials of the U.S. Veterans' Administration; and be it further

Resolved, That the department commander of the Veterans of World War I of Massachusetts, upon adoption of this resolution, be hereby directed to present this resolution at our national convention being held in Miami, Fla., October 9–12, 1960, for adoption; and be it further

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution by the national convention, the national commander and the chairman of the national legislative committee are hereby directed to have filed in the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate the following bill:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Veterans' Administration facility located on Heath Street in Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass., shall be hereafter known and designated as 'The Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital' of the U.S. Veterans' Administration."

Remarks by Representative Keogh

Of New York

Mr. KEOGH. Mr. Speaker, it is with a saddened heart that we pay tribute to a lovely and gracious lady who died on September 10, 1960, in Massachusetts.

Representative EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was elected to the House in 1925 to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, Representative John Jacob Rogers, who had served the Fifth District of Massachusetts for six terms. She was the first woman ever sent to Congress from New England, and the only woman to have served 35 years in the Congress.

Mrs. ROGERS served with the American Red Cross overseas in World War I, and since that time her greatest concern was the welfare of our veterans. During World War II Mrs. ROGERS was one of the prime movers in pressing for legislation which later become known as the GI bill of rights. She also introduced the measure which set up the Women's Army Corps during the period of World War II. At the time of her death, she was ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and had previously served as chairman of the committee. She was the first woman to receive the Distinguished Service Cross of the American Legion.

Mrs. ROGERS was an outstanding legislator, a loyal and dedicated friend, and a generous and noble lady. May she now rest in peace.

Remarks by Representative Morse

Of Massachusetts

Mr. MORSE. Mr. Speaker, on September 10, 1960, this Nation suffered a tragic and irreparable loss in the death of one of the truly outstanding statesmen of our time, Representative EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, who served the people of her Fifth Massachusetts District, her State, her country, and the cause of freedom with deep compassion, unsurpassed competence, and selfless devotion for 35 years. Her unyielding dedication to peace and justice earned her the respect and love of all who were privileged to know her.

In 1925, when she was elected to succeed her late husband, John Jacob Rogers, ladies were a rarity in the Halls of Congress. No New England State had ever elected a woman to represent it in either Chamber of Congress.

She brought great gifts to the Congress. She was unusually well educated, extremely well informed, and possessed a deep sense of the true purpose of our Nation. She had worked tirelessly on behalf of the wounded and disabled veterans of the First World War, and her compassionate interest in America's wounded soldiers had been recognized by Presidents Harding and Coolidge.

Seventeen times the citizens of the Fifth District reelected her to represent them. By 1953 Mrs. ROGERS had held national public office longer than any other woman in U.S. history.

She represented the people of her district faithfully and well. She became an expert on foreign affairs, and one of the best informed members of the Foreign Affairs Committee, on which she served from 1933 until 1946. She was among the first to rise on the floor of the House to protest against the persecutions in Nazi Germany. She spoke out with equal vigor and insight against the crimes and aggressions of the Communists.

Throughout her life she was deeply concerned with the welfare of those who had defended our Nation. She had devoted herself to the cause of helping America's wounded soldiers for some time before she entered Congress. With characteristic courage, she had gone to France in 1917 to support our men at the front. In 1922 President Harding appointed her his personal representative in the care of our disabled veterans, a position to which she was reappointed by Presidents Coolidge and Hoover.

When Mrs. ROGERS entered the House in 1925 she was already a recognized champion of our country's veterans. By 1947, when she assumed the chairmanship of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, she was regarded as the vigilant guardian of the rights of our millions of veterans. During World War II, as President Roosevelt's personal representative, Mrs. ROGERS surveyed military hospital facilities in Europe. She did the job thoroughly and well and achieved a distinct improvement in the medical care of our wounded soldiers.

Among Mrs. ROGERS' major contributions to our war effort was the legislation to establish the Women's Army Corps which she sponsored. The mobilization of America's women for noncombatant duties freed thousands of men for front-line service, and helped significantly to shorten the war. When peace prevailed, Mrs. ROGERS sponsored one of the most important pieces of legislation of our time, the GI bill of rights, which enabled millions of men and women who had fought in defense of our Nation to prepare for their return to civilian life. As senior member and two-time chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Mrs. ROGERS was a tireless and uncompromising fighter for the rights of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines. She loved them as they loved her.

Her work in administering to the needs of our wounded fighting men and of our veterans spanned almost half a century. It was a period of profound and violent change, which left nothing untouched. Throughout this turbulent

era, Mrs. ROGERS' intense sense of purpose served as a beacon for all who had the good fortune of knowing her. She never wavered in her conscientiousness toward her constituents, her deep sympathy for those who had served the United States in the Armed Forces, and her abiding love for this great Nation.

Her district has lost a tireless and effective representative. Unnamed millions whom she served with such diligence and sympathy have lost a cherished friend. This House has lost a respected Member. This Republic has lost a great champion. The ideals of human freedom and human dignity have lost a courageous defender.

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was truly a great American.

Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, January 12, I introduced House Joint Resolution 131 which would establish a most fitting memorial to one of the greatest statesmen of our time, the late EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, who served as a Member of this body for over three decades.

Congresswoman ROGERS' public service was distinguished by her constant devotion to the idea of freedom. Throughout her career, both in war and in peace, she was in the forefront of the struggle for human liberty and human dignity. But closest to her heart were the men and women who had served in defense of the Republic, when it was threatened by the aggressive designs of those who would destroy men's freedom. Her selflessness, in behalf of those who were disabled in the Nation's service, of the widows and orphans of those whose lives were given in the defense of our country—in fact, in behalf of all of our citizens who are privileged to defend our American heritage in time of war, is known to Americans everywhere. Congresswoman ROGERS earned the respect and love of her fellow citizens in all walks of life.

Within the district that she represented with such dedication for 35 years there is a Veterans' Administration hospital which Mrs. ROGERS quietly visited whenever there were a few free moments in her demanding schedule. The hundreds of patients at the VA hospital in Bedford, Mass., knew her and

loved her. She constantly fought to improve conditions at the Bedford VA Hospital, as she did at VA hospitals throughout the country.

It may well be said that the Bedford VA Hospital is a monument of the outstanding work Congresswoman ROGERS did throughout the Nation over the years to insure that care provided to our Nation's veterans was of the highest standards.

To those of us who have lived in Massachusetts, who have known of Mrs. ROGERS' great work on behalf of veterans everywhere, the Bedford VA Hospital has been Mrs. ROGERS' hospital. The resolution I offer would merely formalize that identification by renaming it the EDITH NOURSE ROGERS Memorial Hospital.

A number of veterans organizations have urged that the hospital in Bedford be so designated. I can think of no finer tribute to the memory of one of the greatest of Americans.

The resolution follows (H.J. Res. 131):

Joint resolution to designate the Veterans' Administration hospital at Bedford, Mass., as the EDITH NOURSE ROGERS Memorial Hospital.

Resolved, That the Veterans' Administration hospital at Bedford, Mass., shall be known and designated hereafter as the "EDITH NOURSE ROGERS Memorial Hospital." Any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States in which such hospital is referred to shall be held to refer to such hospital as the "EDITH NOURSE ROGERS Memorial Hospital."

Remarks by Representative Martin

Of Massachusetts

Mr. MARTIN. Mr. Speaker, when EDITH NOURSE ROGERS passed away on September 10, 1960, it could well be said the country had lost one of its most dedicated public servants. To me, her death was a great personal loss because we had been close friends for over 37 years. It had been my privilege to give Congresswoman ROGERS her first start in public life. Her husband, John Jacob Rogers, was an outstanding Member of the House and was selected in 1924 to serve as a presidential elector. After being selected by the convention, it was found he was ineligible to serve because he held the office of Congressman. In considering a successor, I suggested to the State chairman the name of Mrs. ROGERS, at the same time commenting upon her popularity. She was selected and elected. Several months later her husband died, and Mrs. ROGERS was nominated as his successor. The State committee assigned me to aid in the special election, and it proved an easy victory, as indeed were all her many subsequent elections.

Mrs. ROGERS was a woman of warm sympathies, very generous, and with an ardent desire to aid all who were in need. No deserving person ever appealed to her in vain. She served overseas with the American Red Cross in 1917 and was the personal representative of Presidents Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover in care of disabled veterans. Her work revealed clearly the sacrifices and patriotism of the American serviceman, and she became his stout champion. Through the years he was ever close to her heart, and her work in his behalf won for her the title of the "veterans' angel."

Her husband's service on the Foreign Affairs Committee and as author of the Rogers Act brought her an intimate knowledge of State Department affairs. She served for

years on the Foreign Affairs Committee but later when freed to make a choice she elected to go on the Veterans' Committee, where she served with great distinction. For 4 years she served as chairman of the Veterans' Committee and during these years under her close supervision, great progress was made in veterans' legislation.

Much of the veterans' legislation enacted during her long service on the Veterans' Committee bore the imprint of her talents. She was the author of the legislation that created the WAC who contributed outstanding service during the war and in subsequent years. Her outstanding public service deservedly won recognition with honorary degrees from Tufts, Bates, Washington College of Law, Portia Law School, and the Lowell Technological Institute.

Her service in Congress was during a trying period in the industrial life of New England. Many textile concerns were moving south. Lowell and other communities in her district were hit particularly hard and caused her constant worry. She was a tireless worker to make life more attractive for those that remained and to bring new industries into New England. In this service she realized the contribution it would be to make life happier and more prosperous for the workers of New England. Outstanding instances could be enumerated of her success in this very important work.

In recent months Mrs. ROGERS appeared to be failing in health, but she insisted upon working with all her usual courage and earnestness. Toward the end of the session, it was impossible for her to continue and she was forced to go home for a rest. Shortly after Congress adjourned, she passed away.

Although born in Maine, she was from an old Massachusetts family. One of her ancestors was burned as a witch in Salem in the early days of the Colonies. Others served conspicuously in the industrial life of New England.

That her great work was appreciated was evidenced by the final honors paid Mrs. ROGERS by the city of Lowell, her

constituents, and New England friends who were aware of the great loss they had sustained.

Thousands turned out at the church. Flags were at half mast and as the funeral procession went to the cemetery, business was halted. Thousands of mourners lined the streets in a final farewell salute.

As one of the first women to be elected to Congress, it was to her a challenge that was ever present. She had to prove that women could make excellent Congressmen. She measured up fully to the great challenge.

In the death of Mrs. ROGERS, Congress lost one of its most popular Members; the veterans an outstanding champion; New England a zealous worker; and the country a fine American public servant. Her many fine deeds will ever be an inspiration to all who knew her.

As part of my remarks, I include at this point a guest editorial tribute, written on behalf of Mrs. ROGERS' staff, by Capt. Harold Lawrence, who was for many years a tireless and loyal assistant.

THE HONORABLE EDITH NOURSE ROGERS—ON BEHALF OF HER STAFF

(By Capt. Harold Lawrence)

Seldom in a generation, or a lifetime, or even a century, is there combined all of the godly qualities of greatness in a single human being.

Those of us who knew Mrs. ROGERS, and enjoyed the honor of working with her, knew her kindness, her consideration, and the breadth of her knowledge and understanding. We knew her strength, her energy, her tenacity, her inspiration.

We knew of her love for the people she represented and how intensely she wanted to ably serve them and help them to live a fuller and happier life in this their precious time.

We knew of the inspiring loyalty and patriotism she possessed for America, and we knew of her comprehension of the great principles upon which this glorious Nation of freedom must stand and defend against all challenges.

We knew of her devotion to the men and women who gave their lives in the service of their country that freedom shall not perish from the earth. We knew that the care and justice for the cause of veterans throughout the whole country commanded her full strength and energy.

We knew her thoughts about the senselessness of war and that she comprehended the full meaning and glory of a world at peace. We knew Mrs. ROGERS to have the courage of a lion and possessed of a determination that looked only toward victory. We knew her to have a heart as strong as sinews of steel and yet as soft as a cloud and as understanding as a saint.

We knew Mrs. ROGERS in war. We knew her in peace. We knew her in depression and adversity. We knew her through many of her great struggles. Through these troubled moments of crises her leadership was calm and wise and an inspiration to all of us. We knew of her integrity and her honor and her constant cheerfulness, her endless generosity and unselfishness.

We knew of Mrs. ROGERS' faith, her faith in people and her faith in God. We knew how very deeply this faith sustained her. We knew of her great sense of the right and of her efforts to live truthfully and justly and honorably.

We knew that the loyalty of her countless friends here in "my wonderful district," and countless friends all over the world, gave her strength and confidence in America's great destiny in a world at peace under God.

We know that all she was, all she accomplished and all she gave of her whole life has etched eternal love and respect in the minds and hearts of men and women everywhere.

We know of her great hopes and dreams for a world at peace, so that human beings everywhere could again flourish and develop their godly endowed talents.

We know that all of these things of mind and heart brilliantly lighted her sky with a magnificent gleam and an inspiring glow surrounding a beautiful golden sunset.

We knew her well. We were privileged. We were honored. We have associated with greatness fashioned by God.

Remarks by Representative McCormack

Of Massachusetts

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, in the constitutional history of our country many great Americans have served in the Halls of Congress. History records that they possessed unusual qualifications, and as one qualification we find always existing in the life of every great American, whether in or out of Congress, but particularly in the Congress of the United States, that while one might be a better orator than someone else, one might possess this or that quality better than some other outstanding American, they all possessed the quality of courage.

Mrs. ROGERS was one of the outstanding Members in the entire constitutional history of our country in service in this great body. No Member that I have ever served with displayed courage to a greater extent than did Mrs. ROGERS. Between us there was a deep, strong friendship and a profound feeling of respect, evidenced not so long ago when there was talk of a Democratic controlled Massachusetts legislature redistricting congressional district last year. Although I never thought there would be, there was some talk that they would carve up Mrs. ROGERS' district. I sent word to them, at least I made it known, that I would very much regret that being done and that I would vigorously oppose it.

She displayed courage to a degree that is almost indescribable. I have seen it repeatedly, particularly during the dark days preceding World War II when, for example, we had the matter of the extension of the Selective Service Act here on this floor, and it carried by 1 vote, 203 to 202. She stood there like the Rock of Gibraltar in support of the passage of that bill. This evidenced the type of legislator Mrs. ROGERS was. When the national interest of our country was involved, that middle aisle meant nothing to

her. Furthermore, where friendship was involved, the middle aisle meant nothing to her. And that is the way it should be.

She gave of herself untiringly to her country, to our country, and to her friends. In my opinion, from the political angle, she was the best politician Massachusetts ever had in 75 or 100 years, in either party. She could outthink, outguess, outsmart, and "outcourage" any of us.

Her passing was a great personal loss to me as well as to the people of her district. I find it difficult to express adequately the thoughts I have on this occasion when we are delivering eulogies on this lady who was so sweet and kind, but who was a grim and determined American, whose courage was without limitation.

Remarks by Representative Bolton

Of Ohio

Mrs. BOLTON. Mr. Speaker, we are all going to miss EDITH ROGERS very much. She was always so blythe, so gay, so cheery—so very thoughtful of the big things as well as the small. One of the thoughtful little things that are so important that she did each year was to express our thanks to all the clerks, the page boys, and everybody else who serve us here. This year I missed it very much, but did not have the good sense to get up and do it myself in her memory.

So many things have been said about her capacity, her service, her consecration, that I am not going to add my words to those that have been so well expressed. But when one parts from an old friend there is a void—even though one rejoices that she has gone free.

I met EDITH NOURSE ROGERS in the early twenties when we were both in Washington with our husbands. I remember dining with them and finding my hostess, whom I had met that evening for the first time, one of the most exquisitely lovely women I have ever seen. And such a hostess. Such charm, such care of everyone at her table.

We both worked for nursing in World War I, sharing one of our chief interests from our first meeting. Our relationship continued down through the years in a most friendly, delightful fashion.

Mrs. ROGERS loved her work here and gave unstintingly of herself, especially to the veterans. She served her district as few districts are served, and I am sure that many hearts were heavy when the news of her passing came.

It was a joy to me when all those at the Women's National Press Club dinner the night the Congress reconvened this year stood for a moment of silence out of respect for this woman who had given 35 years of her life to her country.

Remarks by Representative Sikes

Of Florida

Mr. SIKES. Mr. Speaker, here was one of the grand and great ladies of our time; always friendly, always pleasant, always helpful to her colleagues, always interested in all of the work of the Congress and always a champion of her people. She was truly an outstanding Member of the House.

I valued her friendship just as I esteemed her fine work, her wonderful qualities, and the contributions that she made here. I mourn her death. We shall not soon find another such wonderful warm, invigorating personality as EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

Remarks by Representative Adair

Of Indiana

Mr. ADAIR. Mr. Speaker, for 10 years it was my privilege to serve on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs with EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. As I think all who knew her were aware, she was dedicated to the work of that committee. It seems to me in thinking about her service, as I knew her, she had three great dedications: First to her country, which she loved so dearly, secondly to the people of her own State and congressional district, and thirdly to the great group of veterans of all our wars. Whenever there was any legislative matter that touched the veterans or their interests she was immediately alive to it and took a most active interest and participation in anything relating to it.

As has been said here previously today, certainly she will be missed by many people who have observed and appreciated her service in this House through the years.

Remarks by Representative Pfost

Of Idaho

Mrs. PFOST. Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that those of us who knew, worked with. admired and loved our colleague, Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, should pause today and pay tribute to a great leader and a great legislator.

Her absence across the aisle will be sharply felt for years to come. The warmth of her friendship, her steady bright determination to make this world a better place, are lasting tributes to a great lady.

Mrs. ROGERS was already Dean of the Women Members of Congress when I first met her at the opening of the 83d Congress in 1953. I was a newcomer at the time, but Mrs. ROGERS, as I fondly recall our first meeting on the floor of this Chamber, had friendly words of advice and encouragement for me, even though I sat across the political aisle from her. My respect and friendship for her grew over the years as our legislative work brought us together.

She was a great pioneer in the field of veterans legislation. Many major bills for veterans, including the GI bill of rights of World War II, the bill to aid Korean war veterans, bills to help the disabled and sick, establishment of the Women's Army Corps and a permanent nurse corps for veterans, stands as a living monument to her leadership. Her ideas, as they were incorporated into these laws, helped and continue to help millions of American veterans.

Along with her work on the House Veterans Committee, Mrs. ROGERS also proved herself to be a dedicated soldier in the cause of a lasting peace. I am reminded of something she wrote back in the fall of 1952 which has special meaning for us today, as a new administration prepares to assume the leadership of our Nation. Her words were:

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS

"The middle of the road doesn't contain the answer. Neither does the left nor the right. These are academic. The issue is global, not national. Peace cannot be purchased. The method of attainment must be molded by world leadership based on sound ideas, rooted in truth and nourished in world respect."

This is the challenge of our times as Mrs. ROGERS voiced it 8 years ago. Mr. Speaker, let those of us here now try to fulfill the bright promise which her words hold.

Remarks by Representative Bates

Of Massachusetts

Mr. BATES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in paying tribute to a distinguished lady who graced these Halls for over 35 years. I knew the name and deeds of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS long before I knew the woman herself. The unrestrained efforts she dedicated in behalf of the disabled veterans of this country set her on a pinnacle as their champion.

Her works were known widely and the fruits of her labor sent a glow of hope and comfort into the lives of many former servicemen and their dependents and some ray of sunshine into their existence, which so often, was filled with adversity and despair.

Seldom is our middle name known to many. However, all who knew our departed colleague and friend knew her as EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. Her middle name was a reminder that she was a descendant of that historical figure, Rebecca Nourse, who lived in my home city of Salem, Mass., almost 300 years ago.

There have been many occasions, Mr. Speaker, when those who had benefited from her unrelenting crusade to help our veterans, referred to her as EDITH "NURSE" ROGERS. While the personal pride I had of her association with my home city tempted me to correct these people, I must candidly admit that the name born of her benevolence is much more descriptive of her than the name of her ancestors.

The final chapter of her life has been written but as long as the world needs to recall names like Clara Barton, there will be a reason to remember EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

I have introduced a resolution in the Congress asking that the veterans hospital in Jamaica Plain in Massachusetts be called the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Hospital.

After all of us who knew her have passed away, this memorial will serve as a reminder of one who did not forget.

Remarks by Representative Lane

Of Massachusetts

HON. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS LIVES ON IN THE HEARTS OF ALL VETERANS

Mr. LANE. Mr. Speaker, soon after the 86th Congress had come to an end, death closed the career of our long-time colleague, Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, of Massachusetts.

No woman before her had ever served so many years and with such distinction in the Congress of the United States. For more than one-third of a century, she was a Member of this House, where her complete devotion to our veterans singled her out as the greatest friend they ever had in Congress.

As a young woman, Mrs. ROGERS saw firsthand the sufferings of those who fought in defense of our freedoms during World War I. She served in France in 1917, and was with the Red Cross ministering to the needs of the wounded from 1918 to 1922.

I think that was the turning point in her life. For, from then on, her mission was to help those who had sacrificed so much from the freedoms she cherished as the liberating hope for mankind. Her work in behalf of disabled veterans resulted in her election to Congress in 1925, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, the late Representative John Jacob Rogers. She was reelected every 2 years by impressive majorities.

As a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee she became an authority on all aspects of legislation dealing with the comprehensive program of benefits for veterans that was enacted into law. She sponsored many of these bills, and on the floor she was ever vigilant and effective in debating their merits. During the intervals when her party controlled the organization of this House, it was a

foregone conclusion that she would be selected as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee. Her leadership in that post won nationwide attention, and wherever veterans gathered they spoke with respect and gratitude and affection for Mrs. ROGERS as their champion in the Congress.

Her consideration for them was not confined to her services as Congresswoman because she was their friend long before she became their Representative. Few people know the thousands of hours she spent, outside of her official duties, in visiting the forgotten men in our VA hospitals. Her presence brought cheer and comfort to many, and the memory of her kindness will inspire them for all the years of their lives. Like her forefathers who knew that freemen must be worthy of their responsibilities, she welcomed the opportunity to be of service to others.

We are fortunate that, as one of the first women to be elected to membership in the House of Representatives, she set an example of ability and integrity that will encourage more women to participate in public life and thus enrich our representative form of government with the qualities of mercy, and charity, and the human need for one another.

On September 14, 1960, I traveled from my home city of Lawrence, Mass., to attend the funeral services for Mrs. ROGERS in Lowell, Mass. Her mortal remains were embraced by the earth on a tree-shaded slope. Nearby were the graves of those who had built the first textile mills, and the resting place of those who had fought in the Civil War.

Like those who preceded her in death, she lived her life with an immortal faith in the day-to-day progress of freedom, stretching toward horizons unlimited.

Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was a beloved leader during her long and constructive career as a public servant. Her great and generous heart that provided for veterans even in her last will and testament has strengthened the American heritage of courage and compassion, and human dignity.

Her spirit accompanies us into the future.

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS

Mr. Speaker, even in her last will and testament, our late colleague, Congresswoman ROGERS, made provision for those she served with such complete devotion during her long and illustrious career; the veterans of the United States.

Never did one person accomplish so much for so many during the 35 years that she was a Member of Congress.

Her leadership in promoting legislation of benefit to veterans was matched by the thousands of hours that she spent in visiting the sick and disabled in our Veterans' Administration hospitals. The great heart of this remarkable woman won the everlasting gratitude of millions.

Many tributes have been paid to the memory of Congresswoman ROGERS but none more moving than those expressed by the veterans themselves.

Epitomizing their grief, their respect, and their regard is the following editorial from the September 15, 1960, issue of the National Tribune-the Stars and Stripes.

I insert it as an inspiration for those who reverence the example of a life well lived in service to others.

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS

The veterans of America have suffered irremediable loss in the death of Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, of Massachusetts.

Since coming to Congress in 1925 to occupy the seat of her deceased husband, Mrs. ROGERS was perhaps the foremost champion of the veteran and his dependent in the Congress of the United States.

Her service in veteran work began during World War I when she was a volunteer Gray Lady in service hospitals in the Nation's Capital. She was instrumental in organizing the Gray Ladies and spent numberless hours in aiding the wartime disabled.

Mrs. ROGERS, a woman of considerable financial means, was devoted in what she considered to be her duty to the wounded of our Nation. Many veterans can recall as she visited their wards having a $5 bill tucked into their hands as she departed.

When she came to Congress in 1925 one of her first assignments was the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. She has remained constantly on that committee and when the Republican Party was in control of the House of Representatives she served as chairman of that important body. She was the ranking minority member.

During World War II Mrs. ROGERS was one of the prime movers in pressing for legislation which later became known as the GI bill of rights. She also introduced the measure which set up the Women's Army Corps during the period of World War II.

Any veterans having difficulty in establishing what he considered to be his just rights found in the Massachusetts legislator a ready and sympathetic listener.

In later years she was a vocal and constant supporter of pension legislation for the aging veterans of World War I. As a matter of fact, on the last day in which she was in her office she told representatives of the Veterans of World War I of the U.S.A. that she was ready to renew that battle when the new Congress convened in January.

Representatives of leading veterans organizations all expressed regrets over the passing of Mrs. ROGERS and declared that her death was an irreparable loss to the cause of veterandom. They were unanimous in lauding her efforts over the years and all termed her demise a blow to more liberal veterans legislation.

Mrs. ROGERS' 35 years of service in the Congress was the longest period that any woman has ever served in that body. Only nine Members of the 86th Congress exceeded her in length of service.

Speaking for the veterans of the Nation and their dependents, the National Tribune-the Stars and Stripes mourn the loss of an outstanding legislator, a loyal and dedicated friend, and a generous and noble lady. She has crossed the river and now lies in peace under the trees. Her memory will live on.

Remarks by Representative St. George

Of New York

Mrs. ST. GEORGE. Mr. Speaker, when I first came to the Congress of the United States, Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was already an old friend, but I got to know her here as I had never known her before. She was indeed an example to the women of the Congress, because with all her ability and all her political knowledge she always remained truly feminine. She had a compassion, she had a love for those who were less fortunate. She gave of herself, and it is my understanding that when she passed way she was a far poorer woman than when she came into the Congress, and I suspect it is because no one ever came to EDITH NOURSE ROGERS with a sorrowful tale or a real tragedy that she did not do something to help. No one was ever turned away by EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, although probably sometimes they should have been. But do we not prefer to look back and think that that never happened? And I think toward the end of her life she showed it in her face, because as we get older we all get a few lines; some of us get a great many, but the lines in EDITH NOURSE ROGERS' face were happy lines, they were confident lines, they were courageous lines. And more than that none of us can have.

So in her passing we have lost a friend, but we can look back upon her life with satisfaction; and what I like to believe; it was a very happy life.

There are two Beatitudes that appeal to me, seeming to express her personality: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Remarks by Representative Boland

Of Massachusetts

Mr. BOLAND. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join with my colleagues in the words of eloquent and well-deserved tribute to one of America's outstanding women.

When EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, of Massachusetts, took her place in this Hall, 31 years ago, veteran lawmakers predicted that her congressional career would be brief. To begin with, she was serving the unexpired term of her recently deceased husband, Representative John Jacob Rogers, one of the most popular members of the Massachusetts delegation. Moreover, she had to live down the fact that few women had ever been able to make their mark in Congress.

Pessimistic predictions meant nothing to Mrs. ROGERS, however. When the last Congress assembled, she was still on hand, charming as ever after three decades of distinguished service, the victor in 14 consecutive election contests, and one of the outstanding New England representatives on the floor.

Time, and time alone, was able to drive Mrs. ROGERS from the field of public service, and we are saddened today by her absence, forced upon us by her departure from this earth.

The House mourns her loss with the same depth of emotion as that felt by her family, her friends and her loyal constituents. Indeed, the Nation is the greatest sufferer of all, for Mrs. ROGERS loved and served the national cause with a will and determination equaled by few of her contemporaries.

Mrs. ROGERS was a public servant, in one capacity or another, throughout most of her life. Following her marriage in 1907 she became greatly concerned in international affairs; and when World War I began, she volunteered for oversea service in YMCA work for the American Red Cross. Later, as a Red Cross worker, she tended the wounded at Walter Reed Hospital, from 1918 to 1922.

Hearing of her efforts, President Harding appointed Mrs. ROGERS as his personal representative in charge of assistance for disabled veterans. The next year she was reappointed by President Coolidge, and President Hoover named her to the same post in 1929.

In the meantime, the constituents of the Massachusetts Fifth District had appointed Mrs. ROGERS to her late husband's seat in Congress and demonstrated a determination to maintain her in that capacity. Mrs. ROGERS, in turn, had shown that she took the responsibility very seriously and was soon on record as the first Congresswoman to sponsor major legislation.

An ardent patriot, she opposed the spread of totalitarianism everywhere in the world, and demonstrated her convictions by introducing a bill curbing the influx of goods from the Japanese dictatorship.

Long a friend of the American veterans, she introduced numerous pension bills for the benefit of their widows.

An early believer in military preparedness, she spoke out in the interest of national defense long before many of her male compeers had recognized the necessity for such action.

And as the lone woman member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, she sponsored the bill to create the volunteer Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

At her death, Mrs. ROGERS held the record for the longest service of any Congresswoman in American history. She has set a standard which future Congresswomen will find hard to equal, and the House has nothing but praise for her service, and pleasant recollections of her charm, her ability, her courage, and her charity. There, indeed, was a distinguished American.

Remarks by Representative Conte

Of Massachusetts

Mr. CONTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this eminent body to speak with sincerity about a beloved woman and distinguished legislator who represented her district and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Mrs. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. For 35 years she was a Member of this House and, throughout her career, she merited the high respect and esteem of her colleagues for her devotion and unstinting efforts for our Nation, her State, and constituency. Above and beyond local considerations, those who have served in the Armed Forces in the wars, owe an incalculable debt for her understanding and consideration of their sacrifices.

I, as a veteran of World War II, and countless more, cannot thank her enough for the opportunity given us by her insight and efforts, to acquire an education. Indeed, many men would not have achieved their present success had it not been for the GI bill. More important, however, is the tremendous benefit, through this particular legislation, which has accrued to our great Nation. The sinews of strength given our national life in the postwar period by this farsighted legislation, was instrumental in maintaining our continued stability and in utilizing the great resources of education to revitalize, so to speak, a Nation which had undergone the displacement caused by war.

So, while our eulogy may endure only of its moment, the living monuments to her work in the Congress are the countless American veterans who have benefited. Thus our great Nation is the ultimate benefactor.

It is with profound sorrow that I join my colleagues of the Massachusetts delegation, in our common bereavement over her loss. However, it is with pride that I can pay tribute in this House which she served so well, to the memory of

Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, and to recognize her accomplishments, not only because it was my distinct privilege to have worked with her, but also because I am sure that I speak of all my fellow veterans and, indeed, Americans.

Remarks by Representative Church

Of Illinois

Mrs. CHURCH. Mr. Speaker, there are moments when heartache makes it difficult to speak. Those of us who have known EDITH NOURSE ROGERS through the years mourn today the passing of a great figure. We mourn the passing of a pioneer woman politician; and she was an excellent one. But what we feel most today is the loss of a friend, tried and true.

Many have spoken with merit of her great service in this House. Many outside of this House have spoken with equal merit of the great things that she did for our veterans.

I want to speak of her as a human being, because she was one of the most human human beings it was ever my privilege to know. There was no occasion when help could be given that she was not first to get there with that help. Many times when no one else knew that help was needed, she was uncanny in her discovery of the need. Perhaps one should say that she had a divine way of knowing when the word "sympathy" would mean so much, and when the open hand of friendship would fill a void.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Members of this House realize, as I have been realizing today, that very seldom was there held an occasion like this that EDITH NOURSE ROGERS did not rise to speak of the loss that she felt in the passing even of some Member that she did not know in some cases so well. She spoke because of her quality of sympathy. She spoke also because she knew that in this great body no head can fall without a great loss to the Nation.

I like to think of her humanity. I remember the time last year when she cast a vote with great political courage, and coming up to me afterward in the Speaker's lobby said, "I hope that vote did not disturb you. You know, I cannot refuse to spend mere money when I know that people need

it." I am inclined to think that her whole life was tied up in those words. We who were privileged to walk closely with her, following the pattern set by a great woman, knew last spring that strength was not there which we had found before. However, so great was our respect for EDITH NOURSE ROGERS that not one of us ever mentioned it to her. We wanted her to know that although her physical strength might fail, the mental and spiritual strength which she brought to this body would never fail and would never leave it.

Sometimes it is said in Washington with some jocularity, that this Capitol is a place where everyone is welcomed but no one is ever missed. I would deny the last part emphatically in the case of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. As long as any one of us who served with her in this body is here, there will be a void. And the many who knew her outside of this body, together with the many in the future who will benefit through the legislation which she sponsored, "will rise up and call her blessed."

Remarks by Representative Burke

of Massachusetts

Mr. BURKE. Mr. Speaker, as the 87th Congress convenes and we seek to find solutions for the legislative problems now confronting our Nation, it is with deep regret and a sincere feeling of loss that we note the passing of one of our most dedicated and long-serving colleagues, Congresswoman EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

Mrs. ROGERS' whole life was fired by a spirit of patriotism, a love of mankind, and a desire to serve in any capacity that might present itself—a combination of qualities rarely seen today.

During the 86th Congress it was my privilege to become acquainted with Mrs. ROGERS, and I took her to be a very kindly person, generous in her advice and counsel to a freshman Member of Congress. And, I know that I speak for the people of my district, because she was loved throughout the entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts as well as throughout the Nation.

Her background prepared her well for the public service she was to render throughout her adult life. From her father, who was a mill company executive, she acquired a wealth of knowledge about the New England textile industry and a warm compassion for her fellow men. She attended the Rogers Hall School in Lowell, Mass., and studied at the Sorbonne and at Madam Julien's school in Paris.

In the years that followed her marriage, the spirit of public service emerged brightly in the personage of Mrs. ROGERS. In 1917 she was sent to France to work for the YMCA and for the American Red Cross. She also served as a Red Cross worker at Walter Reed Hospital from 1918 to 1922. Her work became so well-known that she was appointed by President Harding as his personal representative in charge of assistance for disabled veterans. She also served

under Presidents Coolidge and Hoover and assisted in the establishment of suitable veterans' hospital facilities, inspection of veterans' hospitals, and the planning of suitable hospital construction programs.

During this time, Mrs. ROGERS developed an extraordinary grasp of veterans' problems and a disciplined mind that was to enable her to approach all problems, both of national and international importance, with an extraordinary insight that was to earn her the respect of all those with whom she was associated.

On the death of her husband in 1925, Mrs. ROGERS decided to offer herself as a candidate for the remainder of his unexpired term in the House of Representatives. She became the sixth woman in political history to be elected to the House of Representatives.

At the time of her election, Mrs. ROGERS made a statement in which she said:

> I hope that everybody will forget as soon as possible that I am a woman. I have told my constituents that they may expect just the same service they obtained from my husband. I shall try to give my personal attention to every call on my office, and when I vote I shall try to represent them as accurately as my conscience will let me.

There can be no question that Mrs. ROGERS fulfilled this pledge over and above what was required of her initial statement. Her constituents reasserted their confidence in her every 2 years from 1925 to 1958. This unbroken record of service speaks for itself with what esteem she was held in their hearts and minds. There are now only six Members of the House of Representatives who can claim a longer record of service than Mrs. ROGERS.

Mrs. ROGERS attained a particular record of distinction in her knowledge of veterans' affairs and her championship of their needs. At the time of her death she was considered a foremost authority in the field. In recognition of her work she was awarded the American Legion's Distinguished Service Medal. She is the first and only woman to be so honored thus far.

While Mrs. ROGERS is probably best known for her work on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, of which she was chairman in the 80th and 83d Congresses, she also served with distinction as a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee from the 73d Congress in 1933 through the 79th Congress in 1946.

She is also known as being the first woman Member of Congress whose name has been attached to a piece of major legislation. It was she who sponsored the bill that led to the establishment of the Women's Army Corps, the WAC. She also played a significant role in the drafting of the GI bill of rights for World War II veterans.

Everyone did forget very soon that Mrs. ROGERS was a woman, as she desired. Her life and her accomplishments commend themselves to the respect of all Americans. As a fellow colleague from the State of Massachusetts, and as one who respected Mrs. ROGERS for her great vitality and her outstanding record of service, I wish to be included with those other Members who have expressed their sorrow at the loss of her service to our Nation.

I would like to say this in closing: Mrs. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was truly one of God's great noblewomen.

Remarks by Representative Libonati

Of Illinois

Mr. LIBONATI. Mr. Speaker, it was a sad day for the veterans when our dear colleague, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, the gentlewoman from Massachusetts, died during our adjournment.

She dedicated her career in the Congress to sponsoring and supporting legislation beneficial to the needs and interests of the veteran. The rights of their widows and orphans were fully protected by the enactment of laws sponsored by her.

These untiring efforts won for her a revered niche in the patriotic halls of every service organization. Her name became a password, or symbol, sacred to the memory of the men who served.

She commanded respect and influence as an authority on veterans' legislation. With brilliant alertness and an understanding of their problems—in debate—she successfully gained passage of corrective legislation, critically needed to exact fairness in the veterans' interests.

Her persistent attitude in fostering legislation that, at first, was frowned upon by the Congress, spelled success in the end.

It may be truly said that, on this earth, she was the angel of patriotism in the hearts of all Americans.

It is the cause of the veteran that will suffer in this great loss. We, her colleagues, knew her best when pleading their causes in the historic forum of the Congress.

God's will be done. The State of Massachusetts and the Congress mourn with the Nation and its veterans for the loss of our beloved leader in veterans' affairs.

And so, from all of her activities in life, I have composed an ode to her memory.

Ode to Our Beloved Edith

And so, her day is gone,
As comes for everyone to die;
And now she feels the sun
Of other worlds, To try
To live again, with those so brave,
Who passed but years before,
And know no earthly grave;
But stand to welcome her with roars
Of full approval, of her patriotic chores
On earth; yet many are there who knew,
Now salute and greet her with a happy tear,
To show the gratitude and joy that she is near;
As banners wave, while passing in review,
Thus to pay her homage in God's retinue.

Remarks by Representative Chenoweth

Of Colorado

Mr. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in paying our respects to our departed colleague, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, and to extend my sympathy to our colleagues from Massachusetts in this great loss which they suffered. This loss which is not confined to the State of Massachusetts alone, but is felt by the entire Nation. All of us have suffered an irreparable loss in the passing of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. She was a friend that could always be counted on.

It was a great privilege to know Mrs. ROGERS.

I was greeted by her when I came to the House as a new Congressman. It was her custom at that time to entertain the new Members of the House at a reception in her home. I recall that this was the first social event I attended in Washington. It was a most delightful party and it gave the new Members the opportunity to meet some of the older Members invited by Mrs. ROGERS. Some of the finest friendships I have enjoyed in the House were formed at this reception.

Mrs. ROGERS was always very faithful in her attendance at the sessions of the House. I missed her at the special session late last summer, and understood she was ill at that time. However, I did not realize that her illness was so serious.

Mrs. ROGERS was interested in doing favors for others. She was always anxious to assist other Members with their problems. Her interest in the welfare of veterans has been mentioned many times this afternoon and is known throughout the Nation. Mrs. ROGERS never overlooked an opportunity to do something for the veteran, and many times was distressed because she could not do more.

Truly the House lost one of its most valued and beloved Members in the passing of Mrs. ROGERS. Along with many others, I was greatly shocked and saddened when I learned of her death. She richly deserves the eloquent eulogies which are being paid to her today, but I feel utterly inadequate to express my feelings on this sad occasion.

Remarks by Representative Garland

Of Maine

Mr. GARLAND. Mr. Speaker, I would like to add a few words to the many that have been spoken on the floor in respect to the late Representative EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

My hometown is Saco, Maine, and we are particularly proud in Saco that EDITH ROGERS was born there and maintained a lovely home there throughout her lifetime.

Representative ROGERS had numerous honorary degrees and she spent her life in public service. From 1918 to 1922 Mrs. ROGERS worked with the Red Cross caring for the disabled. She was appointed personal representative in care of disabled veterans by President Harding in 1922 and was later reappointed to this position by Presidents Coolidge and Hoover.

During the last Republican majority in the House, Mrs. ROGERS held the chairmanship of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. During her years of service in the House she was referred to as the "sweetheart of American veterans" for her devoted service in their behalf.

Mrs. ROGERS was one of the leading crusaders for the law that is now known as the GI bill of rights. When she died last September she was the ranking Republican member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mrs. ROGERS was the first woman to receive the Distinguished Service Cross of the American Legion.

As a lifelong resident of Saco, and as its former mayor, I know that I speak for all of our citizens when I say that we are proud that our city is the birthplace of this lady who was an outstanding legislator and who devoted her life to helping ease the problems of our veterans.

Remarks by Representative Philbin

Of Massachusetts

Mr. PHILBIN. Mr. Speaker, the sudden and unexpected passing on September 10 last of our dear and esteemed friend and colleague, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, of Lowell, Mass., has very deeply grieved all of us in the House.

It is difficult to describe the feelings of sorrow and grief which I felt that September morning—and we all feel still—for the loss of a very distinguished colleague and warm friend who was so dear to us.

Mrs. ROGERS, who for 35 years had been an outstanding Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, was a woman of tremendous ability, untiring energy and remarkably high purpose and zeal.

In a personal sense, she was of truly heartwarming personality and her gracious, kindly, generous nature endeared her to all of us who served with her.

Her thoughtfulness and kindness knew no bounds and she could never seem to do enough for her friends and her constituents.

Her humane spirit was unexcelled and ever responsive to any call made upon her.

Her womanly dignity, charm and grace impressed and cheered everyone who met her and brightened every place she went. Certainly no more considerate or lovely person has ever served in the Halls of Congress.

Apart from these great attributes of personality and noble humanitarianism which she possessed in such abundant and magnificent degree, EDITH ROGERS was one of the most remarkable and effective Members ever to serve in this body. She had a quick, inquiring and comprehending mind and rare intuitive powers and vision that enabled her to evaluate accurately the most profound and complex questions and problems which came before the Congress.

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS

She was an illustrious American stateswoman of rare and unparalleled gifts, whose understanding of human nature, knowledge of public psychology and deep, incessant interest in helping the people knew no peer. In my own experience in public life, I have never known any person, man or woman, who possessed her rare faculty of understanding just what was in the minds of the people and was willing to act speedily and efficiently to render them unselfish service and assistance.

She was known in the Congress and throughout the Nation as the devoted and warm friend of the veteran and his loved ones and affectionately called the "Mother of Veterans"—and well she might be so termed—because there has never been anyone in or out of Congress or the public service who did so much for the veterans as Mrs. ROGERS. She was, in truth, the indefatigable, untiring, and aggressive champion of the veterans' cause, not only as an outstanding member and chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, but in a truly personal and individual capacity in which she became the special custodian of the amputees, the paraplegics and other disabled heroes whom she visited, advised, mothered and helped, far beyond power of description, in all parts of the country.

Mrs. ROGERS not only ably and forcefully spoke for the veterans' cause and acted effectively to advance that cause in the Congress, but of all her many deep, compelling interests and devoted concerns for his district, State and Nation, her love of the veteran and her unbending will to work endlessly and most unselfishly for him and his dependents was without question the great absorbing interest in the life and work of this great, magnificent, lovely American woman.

EDITH ROGERS was strong of mind and body and worked around the clock at her duties. She never spared herself even in the last few months of her busy life.

Although she had not been feeling as well as usual as the House began its heavy adjournment schedule, she never complained and would never even think of taking time for rest

and relaxation. She worked tirelessly and stubbornly almost to the very end, and she died just as much a martyr in the service of her country and to the cause of her people as a gallant soldier giving his all on the altar of American patriotism.

Mrs. ROGERS was a woman of superb, inspiring courage, filled with humility in many ways, yet forthright, candid and brave in speaking her mind and standing by her convictions.

Descended from an early colonial family, she was nurtured in the historic American creed and her faith in this country and its destiny was deep and unbounded. She lived, worked and served in the highest American tradition, sustained by her devout belief in the Almighty and the strength and encouragement that came from those who showed their appreciation for her help by stanchly and solidly supporting her cause.

In the political arena she was virtually invincible and on several occasions was reelected to Congress without opposition. Even when she was opposed, she carried her district by overwhelming margins, and people of every class, creed, color, and party flocked to her standard.

Had she so chosen, she could have stood for higher public office. However, she served, not to suit vanity or indulge in self-glorification. Moreover, her natural humility and dignity prompted her to avoid fanfare and ostentation. So great was her respect, admiration, and affection for the Members of the House of Representatives that she considered serving in the House the greatest political honor that could come to her.

Time and time again her outstanding service, and particularly her service to the veterans' cause, was recognized, not only in her district and State, but on a nationwide basis. She was thus not only the "mother of the veteran" but she was the darling of all veterans' organizations whose leaders and members regarded her as their most loyal, effective friend in the Congress.

Mrs. ROGERS was proud, but never boastful, of her high standing, stature, and memorable contributions. Widely hailed during her life, her passing brought her even greater honors and expressions of respect bordering on reverence, and an affection such as have been seldom witnessed in the great State of Massachusetts.

Her home city of Lowell, which had been plunged into deepest grief at word of her passing, turned out by the thousands to visit her bier and pay their last tearful respects in the church where she worshiped God for many years. Thousands and thousands more attended the services and lined the streets on the day of her funeral to pay their last measure of devotion and heartfelt tribute to this great, good, and beloved lady who had served them so faithfully and well in the Congress and who had always striven to help them with highest sincerity of purpose and with every ounce of her being even unto death.

To strike a personal chord, I am very deeply touched by the passing of this lovely, gracious Christian woman who was a dear friend of mine during my service in the House. She represented an adjoining district to mine in our great State, and, while we were of different political faiths and backgrounds, we worked together for our veterans, our people, and our great Nation. EDITH ROGERS was strong and loyal in her attachments, lofty in her ideals—a woman of breadth, vision, and tolerance, always willing to listen to every point of view, always eager to help.

We deeply mourn and greatly miss our beloved EDITH ROGERS. This House will never seem the same without her gracious presence, friendly smile, and wholehearted, charming, generous nature. We have sustained a great, irreparable loss, and I feel it most keenly and deeply.

A noble spirit and dear soul has been removed from our midst. But we will long continue to remember and cherish her blessed memory, her bright, gleaming patriotism, her all-encompassing devotion to duty, and her true, warmhearted friendship.

To her bereaved family, her surviving relatives, her personal staff, and the people of her district, I sorrowfully tender my most heartfelt expressions of sympathy and condolence.

May EDITH ROGERS dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

Remarks by Representative May

Of Washington

Mrs. MAY. Mr. Speaker, I want to join with my colleagues today in honoring the memory of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. American women everywhere can be very proud that EDITH NOURSE ROGERS helped blaze the way for service contributed by women in Congress. She was first elected to the Congress in 1925 to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, and she served her district and the country with honor and ability for 35 years until her death last year. Her service to her fellowman began much earlier, however, when she served overseas during World War I with the American Red Cross, and later received Presidential appointment from three of our Presidents to serve as their personal representative to care for our disabled veterans. One cannot begin to count the contributions Mrs. ROGERS made during her lifetime to the cause of our American war veterans.

Mrs. ROGERS' work and reputation were well known to me before my coming to the Congress in 1959, and I had admired her for many years before knowing her personally. Even though I was privileged to know EDITH NOURSE ROGERS for only a short time, my admiration for her became coupled with affection. My most vivid memory of her is of a lovely, gentle, kind, and thoughtful person. In spite of a very busy life, she always had time for the gracious word and the thoughtful gesture. I remember one incident in particular; when my mother became ill shortly after we came to Washington, and, although Mrs. ROGERS did not know my mother, she sent beautiful flowers to her, thus creating a lovely memory for my mother.

I think that EDITH NOURSE ROGERS' life can best be typified by her generosity, her sincere and genuine desire to help others, and her kindly, thoughtful character.

Remarks by Representative Everett

Of Tennessee

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to participate today in these proceedings in which we are having an opportunity to express our appreciation for the service and life of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, who served in this body from 1925 until her death in the fall of last year.

It was my privilege to serve with Mrs. ROGERS as a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs; as all of us who have served with her in similar and like capacities, I can testify to the depth of her great understanding and love for veterans. No individual appeal was too small or insignificant to merit her very real concern and assistance if it were possible.

Before I came to Congress I was aware of her great service and the fact that there was nothing that mattered as much to her as taking care of our veterans. She often said that everything that we have in this country today is due to the sacrifices these individuals made in our wars to keep America free.

While I mourn her passing—and we shall certainly miss her in this Congress and in the years to come—the manner of her going was in the best tradition of what she would like to have done, for she was active in her job until a very few days prior to her death.

I am happy to join with the gentleman from Massachusetts and others in adding my all too inadequate testimony to the worth of this great lady.

Remarks by Representative Haley

Of Florida

Mr. HALEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the Massachusetts delegation in paying tribute to that gracious lady and dedicated legislator, our departed colleague, the late EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

For almost 7 years, it was my privilege and pleasure to serve with Mrs. ROGERS on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. Through this association, I found our colleague to be a great American and a loyal friend of mankind. Mrs. ROGERS was well known as a champion of veterans. Her years of dedicated service in behalf of veterans were many. The gentlewoman from Massachusetts served long and well in the Congress.

I join with the good people of Massachusetts, her many friends and our colleagues in mourning the passing of this great humanitarian and patriot, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE Rogers.

Remarks by Representative Weis

Of New York

Mrs. WEIS. Mr. Speaker, I was not privileged to serve in the Congress with EDITH NOURSE ROGERS for as long as did many of those Members who have already spoken today, but I have known and worked with her for many years within the Republican Party. I share fully the deep respect and admiration for her which has been expressed by my colleagues, and I should like to associate myself with all of their remarks.

When I first came to the Congress in 1958, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was already a veteran of 33 years of devoted service in the House. In spite of her growing years she remained as active as she had always been, and I was immediately impressed by the diligence and perseverance with which she pursued her legislative duties and promoted the interests of her constituents.

As a new Member of the Congress, there was a great deal for me to learn, and EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was always generous with her time, always willing to share with me the valuable insights she had gained during her three decades of service to the people of Massachusetts' Fifth District.

Of all of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS' many wonderful qualities, I shall always remember most vividly the kindness and quiet dignity which characterized everything she did. The people of her district have lost an extraordinary representative, and the Congress has lost one of its truly great women.

Remarks by Representative Green

Of Oregon

Mrs. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sorrow that I rise to participate in this eulogy of our departed colleague, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, of Massachusetts. Like every woman Member of this body, I have always had a special place in my heart for the "dean of the distaff side." But EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was more than that. Her unfailing courage, her integrity, the deep understanding and real wisdom which she demonstrated in her many years of service in this House, made her a leader respected and admired by all.

This House has been a wiser, and a better place because of Mrs. ROGERS' presence among us. To her friends, to her family, to the people whom she represented so long and so well, and to her successor, I extend my very sincere condolences at their great loss—and ours.

Remarks by Representative Halleck

Of Indiana

Mr. HALLECK. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to associate myself with the fine and deserved tributes that have been paid by Members from both sides of the aisle to our late colleague, the gentlewoman from Massachusetts, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. It is most fitting that in her particular case, these words of respect and admiration should know no political lines because EDITH ROGERS' work here in the Congress was characterized by a nonpartisan approach.

Her mission in life, it would seem in retrospect, was to do everything within her power to provide for the welfare of the men and women, who served their country in time of war.

In this purpose she displayed a fierce determination and persistence of effort that endeared her to the people she served so well for so many, many years.

Not the least notable of EDITH ROGERS' achievements was the magnificent devotion and trust shown in her by the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Massachusetts.

This confidence in her representation was reflected, election after election, in the overwhelming support she received from her constituents.

Let no one mistake this: Mrs. ROGERS was a rugged independent in many ways, with a mind of her own, and a match for any of us in dedication to the cause for which she worked with an amazing vitality.

She was a truly great person and we shall all miss her very much.

Remarks by Representative Weaver

Of Nebraska

Mr. WEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with other Members of this body in paying respect to the late Congresswoman from Massachusetts, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. Mrs. ROGERS served her district, State, and the Nation ably and well for a good many years; and I was proud to have been associated with her for 4 years as a member of the House Veterans' Committee. It was here that I had the opportunity to observe her sincere interest in problems affecting veterans and their dependents. Mrs. ROGERS, as the ranking minority member of that committee, performed unselfishly and tirelessly in their behalf.

With the passing of Mrs. ROGERS, the Congress has lost an outstanding Member, and I have lost a good friend. Mrs. Weaver joins me in extending our deep sympathy to the members of her family.

Remarks by Representative Sullivan

Of Missouri

Mrs. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, the news of the death of our beloved colleague, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, filled me with sadness and a great sense of personal loss, as I am sure it did to everyone in this Chamber and everyone who knew her as a friend and associate. And the millions of veterans of our Nation's armed services could not help but feel they had lost one of their greatest champions.

Congresswoman ROGERS was a tower of strength to all of the women in the House of Representatives, helping us in our freshman years, particularly, to become better acquainted with the legislative realities so that we could better serve our constituents. Her long years of service here, beginning in 1925, when she succeeded her husband following his death in office, gave her not only great legislative skill but wisdom in the uses of the democratic process.

Her entire person reflected love of life and fondness for the people she served. Her every action was characterized by kindness and consideration for others. Her devotion to the cause of veterans' legislation was perhaps unmatched by any other Member—certainly not exceeded by any.

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was a credit to the role of women in politics and national affairs, and those of us who have taken our seats in Congress in the years following her election in 1925 found our paths as Congresswomen made easier by her outstanding record of service.

Remarks by Representative Donohue

Of Massachusetts

Mr. DONOHUE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a very deep sense of personal sadness and loss that I join in this tribute to our late colleague from Massachusetts, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

Upon entering this House in 1947, it was my good fortune to be appointed to the House Veterans' Affairs Committee presided over by the distinguished gentlewoman. Her personal kindness to me, with the other new committee members, in patient cooperation through her able guidance and direction will never be forgotten in my gratitude and admiration.

Congresswoman ROGERS was an inspiration to all the men and women in this country occupied in public life, and to all those aspiring to such positions. Rich in experience, blessed with superior judgment, graced with a unique charm of personality, friendly in disposition, gentle in manner, unswerving in patriotic devotion, with the effervescence of the eternally youthful heart, she was universally acclaimed as the Nation's outstanding lady legislator and the foremost authority on veterans' legislation.

The gentle qualities of her heart account for the deep affection in which she is remembered by all who were ever privileged to know her. The keenness of her disciplined mind, coupled with her impregnable integrity, commanded the respect of all who were ever associated with her. Her unparalleled dedication to the welfare of all veterans, the veterans' widows and families has set a place apart for her in our national history as the legislative "mother of all veterans."

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS will live forever as one of the highest traditions of unexcelled service in the House of the U.S. Congress and the United States of America.

From the depths of our hearts we salute the memory of a great and noble lady while we pray the Almighty to bestow upon her everlasting peace and happiness in His Heavenly Chamber.

Remarks by Representative O'Hara

Of Illinois

Mr. O'HARA. Mr. Speaker, I speak, not for myself alone, but for all my comrades of the war with Spain. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was beloved by the veterans and the widows of the veterans of that war of long, long ago as she was beloved by the veterans, the dependents, the widows and the families of later wars. No Member of the Congress in the history of our Republic was ever more deeply enshrined in the hearts of the Nation's veterans. To have known her, to have worked with her, as a colleague in this Chamber, to have felt in close association with her the glow and the lift of her warm personality and the inspiration of her unselfish dedication, I shall forever count among the richest blessings given me. It is the hope and the prayer of all Spanish-American War veterans as that of veterans of later wars that future Congresses in the long roll of years will honor the memory of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS by carrying on her work of dedication to the cause of the veterans, accepting her creed that nothing is too costly that is needed to assure the comfort and the welfare of those who in their youth offered their lives for their country. In the passing of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS all America mourns.

Remarks by Representative Dorn

Of South Carolina

Mr. DORN. Mr. Speaker, we were all saddened last fall to learn of the passing of our distinguished and kindly colleague, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

It was my privilege to serve under her able chairmanship of our great Committee on Veterans' Affairs. As chairman, she was fair, forthright, and very capable in her wise deliberations and counsel.

I served for many, many years with her when she was the ranking minority leader of the Veterans' Committee. I have never known any one more devoted to the disabled veterans of our Nation. Her love for them knew no bounds. She literally dedicated her life to improving the welfare of our veterans.

Mrs. ROGERS was truly one of the outstanding personalities of this generation. As Congresswoman from Massachusetts, she exemplified the patriotism, ideals, and principles of her New England forebears. She was a great lady and great American.

Mrs. Dorn joins me in extending to her loved ones and her millions of friends our deepest and heartfelt sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Macdonald

Of Massachusetts

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, whose recent death fills us all with sorrow and regret. The heart attack which wrote the final chapter to the story of a long and illustrious career took from her district and our State an able, effective, and highly respected representative. It removed from our midst a loved and deeply esteemed colleague; and lost to me a warm personal friend.

When Mrs. ROGERS first came to Congress in 1925 to replace her husband, John Jacob Rogers, who had died in the midst of his sixth term, she said she would stay in Washington only a few years. The extent of her abilities, the depth of her wisdom, and the warmth of her personality led almost immediately, however, to strong urgings on the part of her colleagues and growing support on the part of her constituents which returned her to each succeeding Congress with a tremendous majority.

The congressional service of Mrs. ROGERS from 1925 until 1960 constitutes, in fact, a world record for consecutive service by lady lawmakers. Among her closest challengers for this honor, Representative Mary T. Norton, Democrat, of New Jersey, served 26 years in the House before retiring in 1950, and Virginia-born Lady Astor served 25 years in the British Parliament until her retirement in 1944. Actually, only nine men have served consecutively in the House for a longer period than did Mrs. ROGERS.

Mrs. ROGERS career is distinguished, however, by far more than mere length of service. Her work with the American Red Cross immediately following World War I in caring for disabled veterans led to her appointment by President Harding as his personal representative for the care of disabled veterans, and to her reappointment to a similar post by

President Coolidge and President Hoover. Since that time her interest in veterans' affairs and her dedicated efforts in behalf of the Nation's veterans have been second to none among her colleagues, and have exerted powerful influence upon the form and content of veterans' legislation.

Mrs. ROGERS played a major role in the passage of the GI bill of rights, and, as might have been expected, she sponsored and fought for the measure creating the Women's Army Corps. At the time of her death she was the ranking Republican member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, having served as chairman of the committee while the Republican Party was in control of the House of Representatives.

Always a tough and resourceful legislator, Mrs. ROGERS never for a moment let it be forgotten that she was also a very feminine and attractive woman. Her gaiety and vivacity, and her love of perky hats and lovely clothes were highlighted by her own personal trademark, a fresh flower pinned to her lapel.

I shall always remember Mrs. ROGERS as a devoted public servant of exceptional ability, with firm strength of character, winning humility, and an endearingly gentle nature. I shall mourn her as a valued personal friend.

Remarks by Representative Ayres

Of Ohio

Mr. AYRES. Mr. Speaker, although there were those who differed with her views, no one ever doubted her sincerity. Mrs. ROGERS had a dedication to purpose. She really enjoyed helping people.

Having assumed her position on the committee, I trust my work will be as successful as was that of Mrs. ROGERS. I shall always remember our association on the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Remarks by Representative O'Neill

Of Massachusetts

Mr. O'NEILL. Mr. Speaker, talent and charm are not a common combination, and all too few of our national legislators are known to excel in both respects.

An exception to the rule was EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, the late Congresswoman from the Massachusetts Fifth District, who graced this Hall with her presence for three consecutive decades.

Fate has deprived us this session of the amiable, delightful and highly capable Mrs. ROGERS, who passed away following the close of the last session. But her memory is with us yet, and shall remain so as long as talent and charm remain matters worthy of respect.

A Member of the House for 35 years, Mrs. ROGERS set the record for consecutive service on the part of a Congresswoman. As the wife of the late Honorable John Jacob Rogers, she came to Washington to fill out her husband's term, following his death in 1925. And though few expected her to long remain in the political field, Mrs. ROGERS had other ideas.

As a former Red Cross worker overseas, her interest in international affairs was intense. So was her interest in veterans' welfare. In both respects, Mrs. ROGERS excelled in committee work, and during World War II she served as the lone woman on the Foreign Affairs Committee.

By no means retiring, she led the way in opposing the spread of foreign despotism, and was one of the early advocates of military preparedness during the 1930's.

Her pen it was that set down the terms of a law curbing American trade with the Japanese dictatorship. Hers again that proposed the creation of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps; hers that introduced many a bill for the benefit of veterans' widows.

Her fiery spirit was a vital force in rallying American womanhood to battle in the dark days of 1941–42. Her memory shall be cherished by all who remember the speed with which the women of America responded to that crisis.

We who were gifted with her friendship are honored to say today, "We knew her well; a woman of charm she was; a woman of courage, ability, and dignity."

In short, the personification of the American stateswoman—a tribute to her name, her flag, and her Nation.

Remarks by Representative Kelly

Of New York

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I join my colleagues in paying tribute to our beloved colleague EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

Representative EDITH ROGERS was a true and loyal friend and we will all miss her. She was a friend to all people, particularly "our boys" as she called the veterans. She was their champion and she fought for legislation that would benefit them and their families.

Mrs. ROGERS was a most unusual person. She was gay without losing her seriousness. She was chatty, but always spoke words of wisdom. She was feminine and charming. She was a lady.

The people of her district will miss her, her friends will miss her, but we all know the she performed her duties and responsiblities on this earth to the best of her ability and she will now reap the reward of eternal happiness.

Remarks by Representative Edmondson

Of Oklahoma

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. Speaker, when I first came to this body I was assigned to the committee of which Mrs. ROGERS was then the chairman. I found her, as many others have already spoken of finding her, a charming and gracious person and a true friend, one who conscientiously gave her best day in and day out to the service of her country, her State and her district.

I was pleased to hear a few moments ago that the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Bates] plans to introduce a resolution naming a great veterans hospital of her State in her honor. I cannot think of a more fitting and proper memorial to this great lady, because certainly she pioneered in the field of good medical care for the veterans of the Nation. Nowhere in this body or in the Nation did our veterans have a truer or a more constant friend than EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

I join my colleagues here on the floor in expressing deepest sympathy to her loved ones.

Remarks by Representative Fino

Of New York

Mr. FINO. Mr. Speaker, the passing of our late colleague, Mrs. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, is a blow from which this House will only slowly recover. We whose privilege it was to be among her associates knew her as a delightfully charming, gay, and warmhearted human being. The brightness of her personality and the pleasure of her company will linger for many years in our memories.

The grief we feel stems not only from the absence of that personality but also from the immeasurable loss to our country. That grief must surely be shared by innumerable others outside this Chamber, for the impact of Mrs. ROGERS' 35 years' service in the House of Representatives has affected the lives of millions of Americans.

What veteran of our armed services could be anything but grateful to her memory? What parent, husband, wife, or child of a veteran could ever discharge the debt owed this woman?

Her interest in veterans and their problems was first publicly displayed as long ago as World War I, when she traveled abroad on a special mission to inspect military hospitals. Three Presidents—Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, and Herbert Hoover—employed her as their personal adviser on the problems of disabled veterans. She made numerous hospital inspection trips overseas during World War II.

But her greatest monument was the so-called GI bill of rights for veterans of World War II. Mrs. ROGERS was one of the prime movers and played a major role in the drafting of that memorable and magnificent legislation. Our ex-servicemen can never pay her enough homage for the zeal, energy, and intelligence with which she devoted herself to their interests.

It was Mrs. ROGERS who introduced the bill that created the Women's Army Corps, the WAC. An early and outspoken critic of Hitlerian abominations, she supported every measure she believed would focus the full might of our country upon the task of defeating the Nazis.

For 8 years I had the privilege and good fortune to serve with Mrs. ROGERS on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. She twice gave great distinction to that committee by serving as its chairman. Her devotion to the well-being of this Nation's veterans was an inspiration to her colleagues on the committee. The greatest tribute this House can pay her is to continue in the spirit of that devotion.

Remarks by Representative Curtis

Of Massachusetts

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, the late Mrs. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS had a noteworthy and unusual career, both in the Congress and in life. She won for herself a unique place in the hearts of the people of the Fifth District of Massachusetts and of the whole State. She was devoted and indefatigable, both in her legislative work and in looking after the interests of the Fifth District and its people.

She was one of the kindest persons whom I have ever known and her friends will remember her big heart and friendly interest as well as her expemplary career.

Mrs. ROGERS' interest in and devotion to servicemen and veterans dates back to World War I when she was a Red Cross worker overseas. She was later assigned to Walter Reed Hospital. In 1922 she was appointed by President Harding as his personal representative in the care of disabled soldiers, and continued in this work for over a decade.

She has been devoted to that cause ever since, giving untiringly of herself to the personal attention and needs of the veterans, as well as in official action seeking the improvement of Government programs.

The memory of her work on behalf of servicemen and veterans deserves to be perpetuated, and that can most fittingly be done by naming a veterans hospital in her honor. A bill has been filed to rename the veterans' hospital on South Huntington Avenue in the Jamaica Plain section of Boston as the EDITH NOURSE ROGERS Memorial Veterans' Hospital. I trust that Members of the Senate and House will join enthusiastically in thus honoring her memory.

Mrs. ROGERS was so interested and devoted in her work that she was tireless in its accomplishment. Even when advanced years had overtaken her, she thought nothing of tak-

ing a night train to Boston, motoring to Lowell, attending to the needs of her district, and perhaps speaking at a luncheon or banquet, and returning to Washington by night train the following evening. Her strength was truly the strength of 10 because her heart was pure.

We of the Massachusetts delegation have been close personal friends as well as congressional colleagues of Mrs. Rogers. We will miss her friendship, her kindness, her devotion to duty and to her friends.

Remarks by Representative Rooney

Of New York

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I deem it a privilege to join my colleagues in paying a deserving tribute to our late colleague, the gentlewoman from Massachusetts, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, who was one of America's most outstanding and accomplished women.

Mrs. ROGERS was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1925 to succeed her late husband, John Jacob Rogers. The people of the Fifth District of Massachusetts had great confidence in her leadership and ability as she served them from that time until the date of her death, September 10, 1960. As we all know, she dedicated her public life to sponsoring legislation beneficial to our war veterans. She possessed an extraordinary understanding of their problems and served with great distinction as a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee of which she was chairman in the 80th and 83d Congresses.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. ROGERS soon after I came to the Congress. It was a great privilege to have been a friend of hers. I always had great respect for her ability, untiring energy and high purpose in life. She was indeed a heartwarming personality and most gracious and kind. I have lost a very dear friend. Her congressional district, the State of Massachusetts, and the United States of America have lost a real friend and a dedicated public servant.

Remarks by Representative McIntire

Of Maine

Mr. McINTIRE. Mr. Speaker, the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was a native of the State of Maine and one of the Nation's distinguished women.

It was an honor and a pleasure to have her friendship, and it was an inspiration to be close to her great work in the Congress for veterans and for her beloved New England.

I join in tribute to a colleague, a fellow citizen of Maine and New England, and a truly great American woman.

Remarks by Representative Dwyer

Of New Jersey

Mrs. DWYER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege—though a very sad one—to join my colleagues in paying tribute this afternoon to the memory of the late EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, who served so long, so effectively, and so honorably in the House of Representatives.

There is little that is new or unknown about Mrs. ROGERS that I can add to the tributes others here have paid her—friends who knew her far longer than I. But I can say, with great pride, that I knew this wonderful woman, that I was among those fortunate enough to work with her on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and that I was one among many who held her in the deepest regard and affection.

It would be impossible either to catalog the endless list of causes and activities to which she dedicated herself or to identify the limitless ways in which she served the people of her district, her State, and her Nation. She was a woman who sought nothing for herself but the satisfaction of helping others.

Her record both as chairman and as ranking minority member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee was typical—even in its magnitude—of the total way in which she identified herself, and served, the causes in which she believed. Many millions of American men and women will never forget her, for she has left in their hearts many millions of memorials—memorials represented by the rights and benefits she struggled to secure for those who fought for our country.

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was a bundle of energy and charm. Always on the go, she always had time for a kind word, or a helpful suggestion. Her candor and directness were softened by her thoughtfulness and her unfailing courtesy. She has left with her colleagues a permanent memory of a good and gracious lady.

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS

While success is not always a hallmark of virtue, I believe it was in the case of our beloved colleague. For 18 consecutive terms her people sent her to Congress. For 36 years she proved her great worth through her unselfish service. She earned her victories and she has earned the love and gratitude of all Americans.

Remarks by Representative Halpern

Of New York

Mr. HALPERN. Mr. Speaker, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS was a dear friend. She was a fine woman, a true representative of her constituency, a dedicated public servant, and an outstanding American patriot.

On January 16, 1961, a tribute was paid to her by her able and worthy successor, the Honorable Brad Morse, and colleagues who served in this House with this distinguished lady whose untimely passing last fall shocked all of us. At the time of the tribute to her I was inadvertently prevented from participating. But in view of the high regard, affection, and respect I hold for Mrs. ROGERS, I would like to include in this record my feelings about this wonderful woman.

I became well acquainted with EDITH ROGERS in my 2 years in Congress. It did not take long to know her. She was warm and personable, sweet and considerate, fair, perceptive, and courageous.

She used to come over to me on the floor of this House and discuss my district problems. Being ever curious about what was going on all over this Nation of ours, she seemed as concerned about matters affecting my district as if it were her own. This she did, I am sure, with others, and as a result was knowledgeably sympathetic to the problems facing our Nation.

I served with EDITH ROGERS on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. I should say I served under her, for I respected her vast seniority on this committee and considered her as my mentor. I am still awed by the warmth with which her name was hailed by veterans and their organizations as they appeared before our committee and at public functions. An introduction of Mrs. ROGERS always brought cheers and enthusiastic applause from the rank and file of these men who fought our country's battles. They stood to a man to hail

her. She would modestly rise with her slight frame, smile sweetly and humbly, and with a wave of her hand create a feeling of benevolence and understanding that would pervade the entire room.

Edith Nourse Rogers departed life carrying with her the affection of all of us who knew her for she had brought joy into our lives with her friendly and sunny disposition. She left us possessed of our admiration and gratitude because of her large contribution as a legislator to the strength and betterment of our Nation and its citizenry.

Remarks by Representative Cooley

Of North Carolina

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the Record a resolution of condolence adopted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of North Carolina, at a meeting held on the 18th day of September 1960, in Sanford, N.C.

Mr. Speaker, our late beloved colleague, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, served in this House with great ability and distinction for a long number of years. She was held in high esteem and was a dedicated public servant. The veterans of our wars never had a more faithful champion than EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, and I am certain that the sentiment expressed in the resolution I am now presenting is a very sincere reflection of the feeling for, and admiration of, this honorable woman.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE: EDITH NOURSE ROGERS

Whereas the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of North Carolina, has learned with profound regret of the death of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, a Member of Congress from the State of Massachusetts, United States of America, who was a sincere friend of this organization and all who answered our Nation's call in time of war; and

Whereas the deceased was a most honest, courageous, and faithful public servant being ever mindful of the problems of the veteran and his dependents; and

Whereas the members of this organization were shocked and grieved to learn of her death: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Council of Administration of the Department of North Carolina Veterans of Foreign Wars in regular meeting assembled, That all officers and members of the council shall, in pursuance of this resolution, manifest their sympathy and condolence to her next of kin and other relatives; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the next of kin of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, and that a copy thereof be laid up among the permanent records of this Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of North Carolina; and be it further

Resolved, That a request be made to Congress that this resolution be incorporated in the book of memorial addresses printed in honor of the deceased.

Adopted on this, the 18th day of September 1960, at the VFW Council of Administration meeting at Sanford, N.C.

JOHN R. DICKERSON,
Department Commander.

Remarks by Representative Evins

Of Tennessee

Mr. EVINS. Mr. Speaker, during the adjournment of the Congress we were all saddened by the news of the passing of our late colleague and esteemed friend, EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, the gentlewoman from Massachusetts. Mrs. ROGERS was a lady of great ability and certainly an expert on legislation concerning the needs of the veterans of this Nation.

She commanded an important place in the House of Representatives and as we meet this year she is certainly missed.

When I first came to the Congress—in the 80th Congress—Mrs. ROGERS was elected as chairman of the great Committee on Veterans' Affairs and it was under her chairmanship that I served on my first committee in the Congress. She was always a gallant lady, an effective legislator, untiring in her efforts with the interests of the veterans, their widows and dependents always at heart. She was often called the "Sweetheart of American Veterans" and indeed she was beloved by all veterans. At a critical time in our Nation's history, she was a leader for beneficial veterans' legislation and veterans' rights that will long be remembered because of her public service. The veterans of this Nation have lost a fine friend. The people of her district have lost a devoted Representative and we of the House have lost one of our most beloved lady Members.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

WEDNESDAY, *January 4, 1961.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Bartlett, one of its reading clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate a resolution coming over from the House regarding the death of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

The Chair laid before the Senate a resolution (H. Res. 18), which was read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. Mr. President, I submit a resolution, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 23) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of the Honorable EDITH NOURSE ROGERS, late a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Representative from Massachusetts, I move that the Senate, under the order previously entered, adjourn.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 3 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.) the Senate adjourned, under the order previously entered, until Monday, January 9, 1961, at 12 o'clock meridian.

DATE DUE

DUE	RETURNED	DUE	RETURNED
MAR 1 9 1995			
MAY 1 8 1995	APR 2 7 1995		
NOV 0 1 1995			
	DEC 2		

8/2/61

Memorial services held in the main

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